

The Board of Selectmen held a special meeting with the Board of Finance and Board of Education on October 15, 2013 at the Town Hall with First Selectman Robert Morra presiding. Also present were: Selectmen Ray Walker, Leslie Shea, Bob Neil and Bob Lessard; Board of Education members Karen Bergin, John Hambrook, Rich Hayes, Joe Muro, Matt Giuffre, Trace Maulucci and Ron Rousseau; Board of Finance members Bob Munroe, Barry Stearns, John Toomey, Jim Roscoe, Jim Bruner and Judy Wilson; Finance Director Brenda Douglas; Superintendent Kristin Heckt; Administrative Officer Joyce Stille; and residents Sandra Pierog, Kate Galle, Peter Phelan, Allison Romkey, Gwen Marrion and Rodney Fournier.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Morra called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. DISCUSSION ON BUDGET AND RELATED ITEMS FOR CURRENT YEAR, NEXT YEAR AND SUBSEQUENT YEAR

A. Revenues

B. Expenditures

Ms. Douglas went through the Attachments A, B, and C. The unexpended funds contributed to the majority of the increase in cash surplus. One time revenues, such as FEMA funds, are a concern moving forward. Mr. Morra discussed current town budget issues including unemployment claims, debt budget (decrease in Columbia residents), and fuel tank removal/repairs. Ms. Bergin discussed concerns about Special Education costs since there are no placeholders. Discussion occurred as to if funds for special education were insufficient and if not all the funds were necessary. Various Board of Finance members stated that they expect funds to be returned if special education costs decrease. If additional funds are necessary, the Board of Education should address within budget first, then go to Board of Finance. The Contingency Fund was established to handle unforeseen shortfalls in the Town or Board of Education budgets. Discussion on this topic will continue.

C. Capital Improvement:

- 1) Bolton Center Study - includes Town Hall and Bolton Heritage Farm**
- 2) Master Planning of Fields and Recreational Facilities**
- 3) Cisterns**
- 4) Fire Truck**

D. Debt Service

Mr. Morra discussed the Capital Improvement items. With the Bolton Center Study being completed, implementation will be the next step. For fields and recreational facilities, testing was completed in June. Based on results, need to look at options. If no expansion of the tennis courts occurs, high school property is sufficient site. If expansion of tennis courts necessary, Town needs to look at

purchasing a piece of the adjacent property. Pesce's land too wet for fields, would involve Army Corp of Engineers. At Herrick Park, soils tested extremely well. The Town did not receive a STEAP Grant for this project. The Selectmen are considering adding cisterns in the business areas. The anticipated cost is approximately \$400,000. The last anticipated capital expenditure discussed was the replacement of a fire truck for \$400,000 to \$500,000. Combining these items into a bond issue was discussed. Mr. Hayes discussed needs at Bolton Center School including roof replacement, office remodeling, replacement of HVAC units, kitchen equipment replacement, parking lot/sidewalk repair, oil tank replacement and structural repair on southeast corner of building. Technology was also discussed. This year, the capital information was requested early to permit more time for CAPA Committee discussions.

The group discussed communications and possibility of meeting more frequently. Tentatively, a meeting in February was discussed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 9:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce M. Stille
Administrative Officer

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.